

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01     ATHENS 12158 150756Z

17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 FRB-01 NEA-10 IO-13 OES-06 /050 W

----- 101240

R 150730Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7867

INFO USDOC WASHDC

DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS ATHENS 12158

E.O 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECRE, ETRN, BENC, GR, BEXP

SUBJ: THESSALONIKI EUROPORT PROJECT

REF A. STATE 271417. B. ATHENS 850. C. ATHENS 1190. D. ATHENS 1447

1. THE GREEK GOVERNMENT IS DEVELOPING PLANS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAJOR PORT AT AXIOS RIVER ESTUARY, WEST OF THE CITY OF THESSALONIKI IN NORTHERN GREECE. IT WOULD BE CALLED EUROPORT, AND IT IS ENVISAGED AS EVENTUAL SOUTHEAST GATEWAY TO CENTRAL EUROPE. EUROPORT WOULD BE REACHED VIA THE AXIOS/VARDAR, MORAVA AND DANUBE RIVERS. GREECE AND YUGOSLAVIA HAVE AGREED TO BUILD THE NECESSARY CANALS TO MAKE THE AXIOS/VARDAR AND MORVA RIVERS NAVIGABLE.

2. EUROPORT WOULD BE A FREE PORT OF ABOUT 35,000 ACRES, AND IT WOULD INCLUDE AN INDUSTRIAL ZONE FOR EXPORT-ORIENTED GREEK AND FOREIGN INDUSTRIES, SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIR FACILITIES, A CONTAINER TERMINAL, AND OTHER FACILITIES, POSSIBLY INCLUDING AN AIRPORT. EUROPORT MAY ALSO BECOME THE STARTING POINT OF THE PROPOSED PIPELINE DESIGNED TO CARRY MIDDLE EAST OIL TO YUGOSLAVIA.

3. THE PROJECT IS MANAGED BY THE HELLENIC INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK (ETVA) UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE MINISTRY OF COORDINATION, WHICH ALSO CONTROLS THE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02     ATHENS 12158 150756Z

FUNDS. AN ETVA SUBSIDIARY CORPORATION MAY BE SET UP

SOON TO MANAGE THE PROJECT. A PRELIMINARY REPORT WAS PREPARED FOR ETVA IN SEPTEMBER 1975 BY BERNARD MORTIER, UNCTAD'S INTERREGIONAL ADVISER ON SHIPPING AND PORTS. (REPORT IN ENGLISH BEING AIRPOUCHED TO STATE EUR/SE). HYDROGEOLOGICAL AND SOIL SURVEYS ARE BEING PREPARED BY GENERAL RESEARCH AND OPERATIONS COMPANY, AN ETVA SUBSIDIARY.

4. THERE IS NO DEFINITE TIME SCHEDULE. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE MINISTRY OF COORDINATION WILL AUTHORIZE THE HOLDING OF INTERNATIONAL TENDERS DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1977 FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE MASTER PLAN. ASIDE FROM PRELIMINARY EXPLORATORY TALKS BETWEEN ETVA AND IBRD, NO ARRANGEMENTS FOR OFFICIAL FINANCING OF THE PROJECT APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN MADE. CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PRIORITY COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT, SUCH AS THE CONTAINER TERMINAL, MAY START AS SOON AS THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE MASTER PLAN IS SUBMITTED BY THE PROSPECTIVE CONSULTING ENGINEER.  
KUBISCH

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSTRUCTION, CANALS, PORT FACILITIES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 NOV 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976ATHENS12158  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760425-0489  
**From:** ATHENS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761149/aaaabqjw.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 271417  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** powellba  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 FEB 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24 FEB 2004 by chicheje>; APPROVED <10 DEC 2004 by powellba>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THESSALONIKI EUROPORT PROJECT  
**TAGS:** ECRE, ETRN, BENC, BEXP, GR, YO, BU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006